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Medical Care

Leadership Supplied by a Medical Association

ARLO A. MORRISON, M.D., Ventura

IT HAS LONG BEEN AGREED that our great profession best serves the public when it is free, unfettered and unregimented.

First as your president-elect and then your president, I have just completed a two-year tour of duty in support of the principles of *medical freedom*—two years that have been the most gratifying, most rewarding in my entire medical career.

During this period I have met with the officers and members of every one of our 40 component county societies and have learned anew that, regardless of geography in our great commonwealth, you find high standards of medical care. And, you find men and women eager to cooperate in the solution of our mutual problems.

If I were called upon for a definition of our organization in a single sentence, I think I might say:

"On the professional side as well as on the newer front of medical economics, the California Medical Association is a proven progressive organization devoted to the welfare of the citizens of our state."

Our many activities substantiate the definition. Our accomplishments give it real meaning.

For example:

Our Blood Bank Commission, after years of struggle and sacrifice, has been instrumental in establishing a chain of professionally-managed blood banks which serve most of California. This accomplish-

ment has taken intelligent medical direction plus money—your money. Californians today would not have the medical security that these banks afford had not the profession advanced many thousands of dollars of credit to provide the necessary physical facilities throughout the state.

Your Cancer Commission continues its search for a cure of this dread disease on the one hand while standing guard over the public's health in its daring to expose quackery on the other.

The Committee on Scientific Work and the Committee on Postgraduate Activities have completed a highly successful year in helping all of us keep stride with the advances of modern medicine.

Your Committee on Public Policy and Legislation has served both the profession and the public in furthering measures in the interest of sound health policies and opposing those schemes—no matter how high-sounding the titles—which are unsound and endanger us all.

The Medical Services Commission has spent countless hours in exploring all types of medical care plans. The committee members, in their service to the profession, have met with leaders in management and labor; insurance and hospital executives and others.

In answer to a growing need, leaders of your profession have participated in such self-explanatory conferences as "Physicians and Schools" and "Rural Health."

Address of the President: Presented before the First Meeting of the House of Delegates at the 84th Annual Session of the California Medical Association, San Francisco, May 1-4, 1955.

EDITORIAL

Annual Session Highlights

ANOTHER ANNUAL SESSION of the California Medical Association has been concluded. The four-day gathering in San Francisco moved at a fast pace through a large number of scientific papers and a record number of technical and scientific exhibits. An unexpected development was the attendance. Excluding exhibitors, the registration totaled 3,843, a new record for a meeting of the California Medical Association. Perhaps the fact that this was the first meeting that had been held in San Francisco in six years was a factor. On the business side, the House of Delegates considered two dozen resolutions and several amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws.

When the last gavel had banged, members and Delegates returned to their homes secure in the knowledge that a good job, scientifically and business-wise, had been accomplished. Many of the scientific papers will be printed in CALIFORNIA MEDICINE in the coming year and the resolutions adopted by the House of Delegates will furnish grist for the Council and various committees.

In the annual elections, two new officers of the House of Delegates and three new Councilors were elected. Dr. James C. Doyle of Beverly Hills was chosen Speaker of the House of Delegates, succeeding Dr. Donald A. Charnock, who was honored with election as President-Elect. Dr. Paul D. Foster of Los Angeles was chosen as Vice-Speaker.

Among the Councilors, Dr. Edward C. Rosenow, Jr., was elected Councilor-at-Large to succeed Dr. Ben Frees. Dr. Elmer E. Wadsworth, Jr., was picked to represent the Fourth District as the successor to Dr. J. Philip Sampson, and Dr. James H. McPharlin of Salinas was elected Councilor of the Seventh District to succeed Dr. Hartzell Ray of San Mateo. These new Councilors, together with the new presid-

ing officers of the House of Delegates, bring five new names onto the official Council roster.

In addition to electing new officers and passing a number of resolutions, the House of Delegates approved the formation of a new corporation to administer the Benevolence Fund. By handling this fund through a nonprofit corporation, the Association will secure federal tax benefits not available through the former arrangement.

The House also approved a set of By-Law amendments which create a new set-up of committees and commissions in the Association. As now arranged, six major commissions will be appointed, answerable directly to the House of Delegates or, between meetings of the House, to the Council. The commissions are the Cancer Commission and the Commissions on Medical Service, on Public Health and Public Agencies, on Public Policy, on Medical Education and on Professional Welfare. These commissions will, in turn, have subcommittees for the consideration of specific fields of activity. The new arrangement is considered superior to the earlier method of having a number of standing committees with few, if any, duties, and special committees created for special purposes by Council appointment that live on long after the need for them has passed.

Following the close of the House of Delegates, the Council held its organizational meeting and renamed Dr. Donald D. Lum of Alameda as chairman. Dr. Ivan C. Heron of San Francisco was picked as vice-chairman of the Council and chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Council also adopted a statement on the methods used in introducing the Salk antipoliomyelitis vaccine into the field of therapeutic and prophylactic agents. The statement hit at the nonscientific methods employed in a much-publicized program of introduction and pointed out the usual scientific procedures attending the introduction of other agents,

California MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

NOTICES & REPORTS

The New President-Elect



DONALD A. CHARNOCK, M.D.

DOCTOR DONALD A. CHARNOCK of Los Angeles, elected by the House of Delegates without opposition at the annual session to fill the highest position within the power of the Association to give, assumes his new and expanded responsibilities with a background of talent and organizational experience unexcelled and peculiarly fitting him for the strong and intelligent leadership which medicine so urgently requires in this time of peril to our free institutions.

Almost a native Californian, Dr. Charnock has been a resident of the state since 1902. His early education obtained through the public schools, he received his A.B. degree from the University of California in 1921. His medical training and the degree of Doctor of Medicine were achieved at Harvard University, where he was graduated in 1925. Internship and specialty training in urology were accomplished during a four-year period at the University of California Hospital, San Francisco. He has been engaged in the practice of urology in Los Angeles since 1929.

Early evidencing an interest in medical organizations, Dr. Charnock has served on the Council of the Los Angeles County Medical Association for six years; as vice-speaker of the House of Delegates of the California Medical Association 1947-50; and as speaker 1951-55.

In addition, he is a past president of the Los Angeles Urological Society, of the Hollywood Academy of Medicine, of the Barlow Society for Medical History, and of the Symposium Society.

At present he is Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery (Urology) at the University of Southern California; a member of the American Board of Urology; chairman of the Legislative Committee of

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DONALD A. CHARNOCK, M.D.	President-Elect
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(Or.)—Original Article; (Ed.)—Editorial; (CMA)—California Medical Association; (CR)—Case Report; (I)—Information; (LE)—Letters to the Editor; (MJ)—Medical Jurisprudence.

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